

Taking Account...

Events Feature Regional Statistics and Products

BEA's efforts to help users understand its regional statistics continue. Two events were conducted in September; two more are planned for October.

At a September 8th conference in Dallas, TX—titled “Understanding Regional Economic Data for Policy and Planning”—BEA staff conducted an introduction and technical workshop about the Bureau's regional statistics. The event was cosponsored by BEA, the Texas Economic Development and Tourism Office, the Greater Dallas Chamber, and ACCRA—The Council for Community and Economic Research. ACCRA also sponsored another event in Dallas, on September 10–14, titled “Research Methods for Economic Developers,” which featured a workshop on BEA's RIMS II economic multipliers.

The Association of Public Data Users will hold its annual conference on October 5–6. Bureau economists will discuss recent developments in BEA's personal income estimates and will also discuss plans for developing a series of gross domestic product estimates for metropolitan areas. Finally, on October 14–17, at the annual conference for the Association for Univer-

sity Business and Economic Research, BEA economists will discuss recent improvements to BEA's estimates of gross state product and state personal income.

New FAQ Items Available on BEA Web Site

BEA's popular online FAQ service provides quick answers to questions about our accounts.

Recently, several new items have been posted:

- Why has the rental income of persons been declining?
 - Why is the share of national income and product account (NIPA) dividends to corporate profits much larger than the share of privately reported dividends to corporate profits?
 - How are S corporations reported in the NIPAs?
 - What are the differences between the average compensation of Federal Government civilian employees and private-sector employees?
 - What factors explain the average compensation difference between Federal Government civilian employees and private-sector employees?
- The FAQ service also includes a feature that allows users to submit questions for BEA to consider adding to the site. To

access the FAQ site, go to BEA's home page at <www.bea.gov>, and click on “FAQs” on the left side.

BEA Economists Present Studies at IARIW

In August, several BEA economists participated in the International Association for Research in Income and Wealth's 29th General Conference in Joensuu, Finland.

Ralph Kozlow, Associate Director of International Economics, reviewed proposals for changes in the international standards for measuring foreign direct investment. The session on cross-border trade and foreign direct investment was chaired by BEA Director Steve Landefeld.

Jiemin Guo discussed his paper on integrating the U.S. input-output accounts with the System of National Accounts.

Michael S. Christian discussed his paper on alternative approaches to measuring government output in education and health care.

Robert E. Yuskavage discussed a recent collaborative effort by BEA and the Bureau of Labor Statistics aimed at creating “production accounts” for the business sector and for the entire economy.